

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00708 01 OF 02 020827Z

21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 SSC-01 /081 W

----- 023935

R 010715Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3644

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

SUMMISSION USUN 344

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 LOURENCO MARQUES 708

DEPT PASS OTHER POSTS AS NECESSARY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, MZ

SUBJECT: CONSTITUTION AND FIRST-APPOINTED GOVERNMENT OF
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE (PRM)

1. SUMMARY: NEW CONSTITUTION OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAM-
BIQUE (PRM) HEAVILY WEIGHTS GOVERNMENT POWER IN FAVOR OF ONE-
MAN RULE BY PRM PRESIDENT SAMORA MACHEL, WHO IS CHIEF OF
STATE, PRESIDENT OF FRELIMO, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT, COMMANDER IN
CHIEF, AND CHIEF LEGISLATOR. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, MAIN EXE-
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LOUREN 00708 01 OF 02 020827Z

CUTIVE BODY OVER WHICH PRM PRESIDENT PRESIDES, HAS MINISTERS

AND DEPUTY MINISTERS FROM 15 MINISTRIES, WHOSE REAL POWER IN THE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE DEPENDS MORE ON THEIR POSITION IN FRELIMO THAN ON THEIR GOVERNMENT POSITION. THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY AND PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ARE PRM'S LEGISLATIVE BODIES, WHICH WILL PROBABLY ONLY RUBBER STAMP DECISIONS MADE ELSEWHERE.

2. PRESIDENCY: UNDER CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE (PRM), PRESIDENT OF PRM (SAMORA MACHEL) HAS VIRTUALLY ABSOLUTE POWERS: CHIEF OF STATE, HEAD OF GOVERNMENT (PRESIDES OVER COUNCIL OF MINISTERS) AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES, AND CHIEF LEGISLATOR (PRESIDES OVER THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY). MACHEL IS ALSO PRESIDENT OF FRELIMO, MOZAMBIQUE'S ONLY PARTY, AND THE CONSTITUTION ENSHRINES THE PRINCIPLE THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS AN INSTRUMENT OF FRELIMO BY SPECIFICALLY STATING THAT THE PRESIDENT OF FRELIMO IS ALSO THE PRESIDENT OF PRM. THE CONSTITUTION GIVES THE PRESIDENT THE POWER TO APPOINT OR DISMISS ANYONE OF IMPORTANCE, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE SUPREME COURT, PROVINCIAL GOVERNORS, AND COMMANDER AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE SECURITY POLICE CORPS OF MOZAMBIQUE. CONSTITUTION HAS NO PROVISION FOR IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT.

3. COUNCIL OF MINISTERS IS CHIEF EXECUTIVE BODY OVER WHICH PRM PRESIDENT PRESIDES. MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS OF 15 MINISTRIES ARE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, WITH PROTOCOL RANKING AS FOLLOWS: MINISTRY OF STATE OF THE PRESIDENCY, NATIONAL DEFENSE, INTERIOR, DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING, FOREIGN AFFAIRS, JUSTICE, INFORMATION, EDUCATION AND CULTURE, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, AGRICULTURE, FINANCE, LABOR, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS, HEALTH, PUBLIC WORKS AND HOUSING. ORDER IN WHICH NAMES OF NEW MINISTERS AND DEPUTY MINISTERS APPEAR IN REFTEL, HOWEVER, REFLECT MORE MEANINGFUL RANK ORDER WITHIN FRELIMO PARTY STRUCTURE AS FOLLOWS:

A) MEMBERS OF BOTH CENTRAL (CC) AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES (CE):
(1) MARCELINO DOS SANTOS, VICE PRESIDENT OF FRELIMO (AND THUS AUTOMATICALLY MEMBER OF BOTH CC AND CE) IS GIVEN JOB OF MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING--JOB FOR WHICH HE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LOUREN 00708 01 OF 02 020827Z

HAS LITTLE EXPERIENCE AND PROBABLY TRAINING. POWER OF JOB WILL DEPEND UPON THE AMOUNT OF AUTHORITY GIVEN TO THIS MINISTRY OVER OTHER ECONOMIC MINISTRIES. IT MAY ALSO ALLOW DOS SANTOS TO CONTINUE HIS FUNCTION AS A FORCEFUL, EFFECTIVE RAISER OF FOREIGN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, NOW MORE DIRECTLY FOR MOZAMBIQUE'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. (2) JOAQUIM CHISSANO, FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF MTG, HAS BEEN NAMED MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. APPOINTMENT REMOVES CHISSANO FROM SPHERE OF DOMESTIC

AFFAIRS, WHERE HE GAINED PRESTIGE AND THUS WILL REDUCE THIS POTENTIAL SOURCE OF RIVALRY WITH MACHEL. THE APPOINTMENT OF CHISSANO AS MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IS FAVORABLE TO US IN OPERATIONAL TERMS. AS ONE OF THE MORE COMPETENT AND MODERATE LEADERS OF FRELIMO, HE SHOULD, IF HE HAS HIS WAY, DEAL WITH THE WEST ON A PRAGMATIC BASIS. HIS EXCELLENT LANGUAGES (FRENCH, ENGLISH AND PORTUGUESE) AND TRAVEL ABROAD (INCLUDING U.S.) WILL ALSO PROVE IMPORTANT ASSETS IN HIS NEW JOB. MOREOVER, WE HAVE DEALT WITH HIM ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS DURING THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT PERIOD. (3) ALBERTO CHIPANDE, TOP-RANKING MACONDE IN FRELIMO STRUCTURE, IS NAMED MINISTER OF DEFENSE--JOB HE ESSENTIALLY HAD UNDER MTG. (4) ARMANDO GUEBUZA, ONE OF THE MORE INTELLIGENT AND POPULAR LEADERS OF FRELIMO, RETAINED HIS IMPORTANT POSITIONS AS NATIONAL POLITICAL COM-MISSAR AND MINISTER OF INTERIOR. (5) JORGE REBELO, WHO HAD BEEN CHIEF OF FRELIMO'S DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION IN DAR ES SALAAM, WAS APPOINTED MINISTER OF INFORMATION--POSITION WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT VACANT DURING MOST OF LIFE OF MTG FOLLOWING ABSENCE OF OSCAR MONTEIRO ON REST CURE.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LOUREN 00708 02 OF 02 020656Z

21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 AID-05 SSC-01 /081 W

----- 022830

R 010715Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3645

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN
CINCLANT FOR POLAD
CINCEUR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 2 OF 2 LOURENCO MARQUES 708

DEPT PASS OTHER POSTS AS NECESSARY

B) MEMBERS OF ONLY CENTRAL COMMITTEE:

(1) MARIANO MATSINHE MAINTAINED HIS PORTFOLIO AS LABOR MINISTER.
(2) SEBASTIAO MABOTE WAS NAMED DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENSE,
AS WELL AS CHIEF OF STAFF OF FPLM, POSITIONS HE ESSENTIALLY
HELD UNDER MTG. (3) ARMANDO PANGUENE, WHO WAS GOVERNOR OF
NAMPULA UNDER MTG, WAS APPOINTED DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS. HE HAS REPUTATION OF BEING PARTICULARLY ABLE AND
INTELLIGENT.

C) MEMBERS OF ONLY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 LOUREN 00708 02 OF 02 020656Z

(1) OSCAR MONTEIRO, FORMER MINISTER OF INFORMATION IN MTG,
HAS BEEN APPOINTED MINISTER OF STATE FOR THE PRESIDENCY--
JOB WHOSE FUNCTIONS HAVE NOT BEEN MADE PUBLIC. WE ASSUME,
HOWEVER, ONE OF HIS MAIN FUNCTIONS WILL BE SPEECH WRITING
AND CORRESPONDENCE FOR PRESIDENT MACHEL. (2) JOAQUIM CARVALHO,
REPUTED ECONOMIC CZAR WITHIN FRELIMO, WAS GIVEN IMPORTANT
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE--AREA TO WHICH FRELIMO PLANS TO GIVE
PRIORITY. (3) DANIEL MBANZE, PARTY PHILOSOPHER AND IDEOLOGUE,
IS SUITABLE NAMED DEPUTY MINISTER OF INTERIOR TO HELP GEUBUZA
IN TASK OF SPREADING "THE CORRECT LINE".

D) MEMBERS OF FRELIMO NOT ON CENTRAL OR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES:

OF THESE APPOINTMENT, MOST NOTEWORTHY ARE: GRACA SIMBINE
INSTEAD OF GIDEON NDOBE AS MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HELDER
MARTINS INSTEAD OF SAMUEL DHLAKAMA AS MINISTER OF HEALTH.
WHILE THERE MAY HAVE BEEN SOME POLITICAL REASONS FOR DEMOTION
OF NDOBE AND DHLAKAMA, IT HAS BEEN CLEAR FOR SOME TIME THEY
WERE AMONG THE MOST MEDIOCRE FRELIMO LEADERS. ALSO OF INTEREST
IS APPOINTMENT OF MARIO DA GRACA MACHUNGO AS MINISTER OF
INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE, IN VIEW OF HIS REPUTATION AS AN IN-
EFFECTUAL ADMINISTRATOR, THOUGH INTELLIGENT ECONOMIST.

4. PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY AND PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF PEOPLE'S
ASSEMBLY:

LEGISLATIVE BODY OF PRM IS PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY, WHICH IS SUPPOSED
TO MEET TWICE A YEAR. IN BETWEEN SESSIONS, PERMANENT COMMITTEE
OF PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY (OVER WHICH PRESIDENT PRESIDES) LEGISLATES.
OBVIOUSLY BODY WILL HAVE FUNCTION OF RUBBER STAMPING DECISIONS
REACHED ELSEWHERE IN THE GOVERNMENT OR PARTY STRUCTURE.

INITIALLY, IT IS AN ENTIRELY FRELIMO-APPOINTED BODY COMPOSED OF PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PERSONS SELECTED BY FRELIMO LEADERSHIP. THE FIRST ELECTIONS FOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY ARE SUPPOSED TO PLACE ONLY AFTER THIRD PARTY CONGRESS (DATE UNKNOWN).

5. COMMENT: MOZAMBIQUE'S POLITICAL SYSTEM IS TOTALITARIAN; THE GOVERNMENT IS STACKED TOWARD ONE-MAN RULE; AND THE IDEOLOGY IS MORE COMMUNIST (MAOIST) THAN AFRICAN SOCIALIST. IT IS NOT, HOWEVER, A "MILITARY DICTATORSHIP", AS WASHINGTON POST REPORTED, SINCE ARMY OFFICERS ARE NOT IN CHARGE. RE NEW 19 MAN LEADERSHIP OF PRM, ABOUT FOUR-FIFTHS COME FROM REGION SOUTH OF BEIRA; LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 LOUREN 00708 02 OF 02 020656Z

THREE ARE WHITE; TWO ARE GOAN; TWO ARE MULATTOES; AND TWELVE ARE BLACK. IN OUR ESTIMATION, MOST POWERFUL MEN IN PRM STRUCTURE, REGARDLESS OF PRESENT POSITION, ARE: MACHEL, DOS SANTOS, CHISSANO, CHIPANDE, GUEBUZA, MABOTE AND CARVALHO.

5. FULL TEXT OF CONSTITUTION BEING POUCHED.
ALUER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CONSTITUTION, PRESIDENT, INDEPENDENCE, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975LOUREN00708
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750228-1155
From: LOURENCO MARQUES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750795/aaaadhol.tel
Line Count: 248
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 JUN 2003 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CONSTITUTION AND FIRST-APPOINTED GOVERNMENT OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE (PRM)
TAGS: PGOV, MZ, (MACHEL, SAMORA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006